

Fr. Mike Mission Marathon XX

A continuing tribute to former-St. Joan of Arc Associate and top-class runner Bishop Michael Byrnes, in recognition of his marvelous ministry at SJA, in which he lived his life for others, taught as Jesus did, and inspired us to grow closer to God. The last 19 years we joined Fr. Mike in his favorite sport, to raise funds to benefit the missions, and to say, "Thanks, Fr. Mike, for the blessing you have been to the SJA!" Now he's Bishop Mike/Bishop Byrnes. Four years ago we established a new "home mission" - the "Sr. Carol Family Fund," to provide emergency tuition assistance to school families dealing with cancer in parents or children, in memory of our dear departed Sister Carol, who struggled bravely with cancer.

The Event: A 30-minute run/walk over SJA's 'round-the-block loop. Run or walk (or both) as many laps as you can in 30 minutes. Course length: one-half mile.

The Date: "Fr. Mike Mission Day" is Wednesday, June 6, 2018. (Rain Date: June 7th)

Run I: Grades 1-29:00 am - 9:30 am, followed by refreshments PLUS PRE- & K

Run II: Grades 3-4-5 .. 10:00 am - 10:30 am, followed by refreshments

Run III: Grades 6-7 11:00 am - 11:30 am, followed by refreshments PLUS GRADS.

The Benefit: The event is being held in tribute to Fr. Mike to raise money for our newest mission outreach, the Sr. Carol Memorial Family Fund, to benefit families battling cancer.

Donations: Any donation enters a student. Donations of \$15 or more will be recognized with a commemorative T-shirt: White with red, white and blue imprint. It is necessary to pre-order t-shirts on the run-registration form by Tue. 5/22.

Run Attire: Participants will have a "Free Dress Day" on "Run Day." They are welcome to wear shorts and t-shirt or similar athletic clothing appropriate for the activity.

Preschool & Kindergartners? 8th Graders? Yes, you're welcome to join the fun, though your programs will have concluded for this year. Presch. & Kdg. who participate must be accompanied by an adult as Pre & K. staff will not necessarily be present at the Run/Walk. Please follow the deadlines listed, especially if you want the commemorative t-shirt. Preschoolers & Kindergartners can join Run I, with Grs. 1&2. 8th Grade Graduates can join Run III, with Grs. 6 & 7.

Non-Participants? Those not participating will be welcome to watch, but will be required to dress in regular school uniform for the day. Those who wish to donate/support the cause but not to run/walk the course may dress in sport clothes, jeans, etc. Students with physical difficulties are welcome to participate in whatever way they can/choose.

Volunteers Needed: Parent volunteers are welcome, as at each session we'll need lap-counters, especially course marshals (supervising that runners/walkers keep to the course), and refreshment helpers. Please sign up on your child's registration form. Many signed up in Sept. on volunteer forms. Please sign again now, plus any others! Thanks!

Can Adults Run/Walk? Yes, parents and other interested adults are welcome to join the fun. Please register on the student registration form.

Prizes/Awards: Each student who participates receives a "Fr. Mike Mission Marathon" award ribbon to congratulate you for completing the course. Top runners/walkers in each grade will be additionally recognized in a "Hall of Fame" listing of top competitors. The Hall of Fame will include at least the top runners per grade.

The Commemorative T-shirt: SJA's unique run logo, designed by Pat Byrnes, famous cartoonist (New Yorker and newspapers across the US) and brother of race namesake, Fr. Mike Byrnes. Logo is updated to Bishop Mike Graphic. Each year brings a new color: this year: White with red & blue imprint.

Registration forms/donations ordering t-shirts must be in by Tues., May 22, 9:00 am.